

September 29, 2010

Elizabeth C. Brown
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United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX, Southern California Field Office
600 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1460
Los Angeles, CA 90017

**RE: United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
Follow Up Request for Information Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e)
Pertaining to the Yosemite Creek Superfund Removal site
San Francisco, CA
Liable Company Name: Northrop Grumman Corporation
Generator Company Name: Litton Industries**

Dear Mr. Whitenack:

I am writing in response to a letter dated August 24, 2010 from James Hanson with U.S. EPA Region IX regarding Northrop Grumman's initial response to EPA's October 15, 2009 Request for Information ("Request") relating to the Yosemite Creek Superfund Removal Site ("Site") in San Francisco, CA. Mr. Hanson states in his letter that EPA found Northrop Grumman's answers to be non-responsive or only partially responsive "to certain questions in the Request" and encouraged Northrop Grumman to submit our written responses as soon as possible.

Because the letter was silent as to which questions Northrop Grumman failed to fully answer, I contacted Mr. Michael Massey on September 16, 2010 to discuss Northrop Grumman's initial response (dated January 8, 2010) and inquire what additional information EPA was seeking. After speaking with Mr. Massey, I agreed to provide a summary of the information previously provided and a more focused response to Question 2 in EPA's Request.

Summary of Information Provided in Northrop Grumman's Initial Response:

As is succinctly stated in the investigation report prepared by Litton Systems, Inc. (Litton) in 1992 in response to DTSC's information request, the Litton Electron Devices Division facility located in San Carlos, CA determined that it had *purchased* reconditioned drums from Waymire Drum to package its hazardous waste. The drums purchased from Waymire had been reconditioned by Bay Area Drum (BAD). It was Litton's purchasing relationship with Waymire that caused Litton to be identified as a possible PRP at the BAD site by DTSC in 1992. Litton Electron Devices uncovered no evidence that it ever shipped any used drums to BAD for reconditioning. Litton settled with the working parties at the BAD site for less than \$3,300 and

got a full release and indemnification from those parties for response costs associated with the BAD site, which includes EPA's claims regarding the Yosemite Creek site.

Litton Electron Devices did purchase hazardous materials for use at its San Carlos site, but those materials were purchased either in containers much smaller than 55-gallon drums or in bulk. The only commodity that the San Carlos site purchased in drums were cutting and machining oils, but these drums were reused by Litton and then returned to IT Corporation for recycling/reuse. Litton's 1992 investigation report (which was attached to our initial response) is provided again with this letter for your convenience.

Supplemental Response to Request 2:

2. *Provide the name (or other identifier) and address of any facilities where Respondent carried out operations between 1940 and 1988 (the "Relevant Time Period") and that:*

- a. *ever shipped drums or other containers to the BAD Site for recycling, cleaning, reuse, disposal, or sale.*

[SHORT RESPONSE: None. Litton Electron Devices only purchased drums from BAD.]

- b. *are/were located in California (excluding locations where ONLY clerical/office work was performed);*

[SHORT RESPONSE: San Carlos, Woodland Hills, San Diego, Northridge, Moorpark, Van Nuys, and Agoura Hills.]

- c. *are/were located outside of California and shipped any drums or other containers to California for recycling, cleaning, reuse, disposal, or sale (for drums and containers that were shipped to California for sale, include in your response only transactions where the drums and containers themselves were an object of the sale, not transactions where the sole object of the sale was useful product contained in a drum or other container).*

[SHORT RESPONSE: None.]

RESPONSE:

Without waiving any of the objections contained in Northrop Grumman's January 8, 2010 initial response, Northrop Grumman provides the following additional information in response to this Question 2.

For purposes of this response, Mr. Massey confirmed that Northrop Grumman may answer assuming that Litton (and not Northrop Grumman) is the Respondent. (As was mentioned in our

initial response, Northrop Grumman acquired Litton Industries, including its subsidiary, Litton Systems, Inc. ("LSI"), in 2001. LSI became a subsidiary of NGSC and later changed its name to Northrop Grumman Guidance and Electronics Company, Inc.)

Litton had several different divisions located in CA during the Relevant Time Period.

As discussed above, Litton Electron Devices had a site in San Carlos, CA. To the best of our knowledge, that is the only Litton site that had any nexus to Bay Area Drum, but it never shipped drums or other containers to the BAD Site for recycling, cleaning, reuse, disposal, or sale. It only purchased reconditioned drums from BAD through Waymire Drum. We are not aware of any Litton site that shipped drums or other containers to the BAD Site for recycling, cleaning, reuse, disposal, or sale. Hence, the answer to Question 2(a) is NONE.

The only Litton Electron Devices site in CA was the one in San Carlos. There was one other Electron Devices facility, but it was located in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. It is our understanding, from talking to Mr. Massey, that the primary intent of parts b and c of question 2 was to determine if the Respondent might have other sites in CA with a waste stream similar to the waste stream at the site with a nexus to BAD. In Litton's case, there is only the one Electron Devices facility in or near CA. Moreover, that site did not send any waste drums to BAD, so the makeup of its waste streams is irrelevant to EPA's inquiry.

Accordingly, although Litton had other sites located in CA during the Relevant Time Period that were not limited to office/clerical uses, those sites are not likely to yield any new information that will be useful to EPA regarding Litton's involvement at BAD. Nevertheless, we list those sites here: Woodland Hills (Litton Guidance & Control Systems), San Diego (Displays-Navigation Systems), Northridge (Navigation Systems Division), Moorpark (Aero Products Division) and Van Nuys & Agoura Hills (Data Systems Divisions). These sites are all located in southern California and to our knowledge never had any relationship with BAD. We are also not aware that any of these southern California sites ever shipped any drums to any other drum reconditioner for recycling, cleaning, reuse, disposal, or sale. Hence, the answer to Question 2(b) is San Carlos, Woodland Hills, San Diego, Northridge, Moorpark, Van Nuys and Agoura Hills, CA.

Finally, we are not aware of any other Litton site located outside CA that shipped any drums or other containers to California for recycling, cleaning, reuse, disposal, or sale. Litton Guidance & Control had a facility in Salt Lake City, UT and Litton Electro Optical Systems had a facility in Tempe, AZ, during the Relevant Time Period, but to our knowledge neither facility ever shipped any drums or other containers to California for recycling, cleaning, reuse, disposal, or sale. Hence, the answer to Question 2(c) is NONE.

Finally, as mentioned in our initial response, Northrop Grumman no longer owns the San Carlos site. Litton Electron Devices, including both the San Carlos, CA and Williamsport, PA sites, were sold to L-3 Communications in 2002. As a result of that sale, Northrop Grumman no longer has any documents, records, or employees associated with the San Carlos or Williamsport facilities or the Electron Devices business. If EPA requires such information, we suggest you contact L-3 Communications directly. Our contact at L-3 is Doug Smith at L-3 Communications Corporation, 6180 Tidewater Island Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33908, phone (239-433-9321), email (Douglas.Smith@L-3com.com).

We trust this supplemental response provides the information that EPA felt was missing from Northrop Grumman's January 8, 2010 initial response. If not, please let me know.

Very truly yours,



Elizabeth C. Brown
Senior Counsel
Environmental Law

Enclosure

cc: Doug Smith, L-3 Communications

Investigation of Involvement with Waymire Drum During Period of 4/78 through 2/79

Initially we were asked via a letter from DTSC dated August 31, 1992 for any information related to Litton Electron Devices involvement with companies that operated at the Bay Area Drum Site, including Bedini Steel Drum, San Francisco Steel Drum, Myers Drum, Waymire Drum, and Bay Area Drum Company.

We searched all Hazardous Waste Manifests from 1980 through 1992 and found no reference to shipments made to any of the companies referenced in the August 31, 1992 DTSC letter. Therefore, we know nothing was sent to any of these companies during this time period.

We searched all of the purchase order files currently available. These files cover the time span of August 1, 1985 to now. There was no indication of any purchases or shipments involving any of the companies listed in the August 31, 1992 DTSC letter.

Through Mark Stanga, we asked for clarification of DTSC's assertions that this Division was involved with the Bay Area Drum Site's contamination problems. DTSC supplied us with 3 logs, titled Waymire Drum Co., Inc. - Invoice Control and 1 Salesman's Daily Report showing a contact with Litton Industries; "Williamson" as the buyer's name. The data breaks out as follows:

Logs:

Company/Person	Date	Invoice Number	Qty.	Description
Litton Industries	4/27/78	1062	12	55-JAP Carboys @11.50
Litton Industries	8/21/78	1313	10	JAP Carboys @11.50
Litton Industry	2/6/79	5829	10	55-Delawares

The data on the salesman's log shows:

Firm Name	Buyer's Name	Code	Talked About
Litton Industries	Williamson		Needs CT for waste acids. Sold him 10 Carboys @11.50. Considering buying a large amount at discount price.

Vince Williamson was a buyer at Litton Electron Devices, and left Litton October 12, 1979. Since there were no purchasing records or Hazardous Waste Manifests tying us to Waymire Drum Co., Inc., we knew that the only possible connection was through purchasing reconditioned drums to package and ship our waste out.

We conducted a search for current employees who were in the Chemical Cleaning and Plating Department or Accounting or Purchasing Departments who were present in 1978-1979, so that we might interview them. We also asked Accounting to search any relevant records which may be here showing orders to, payment to, solicitation from, etc. Waymire Drum Company. We searched all of our Hazardous Waste Permits for the period 1978-1979 to establish by whom our waste was transported and to where.

Hazardous Waste Permits:

All extremely hazardous and hazardous wastes during 1978-1979 were handled by Industrial Environmental Services of San Jose (which was bought by IT Transportation Company in 1979, still operating out of San Jose). There were three disposal sites used: Richmond Sanitary Services in Contra Costa Count and Kettleman Hills Site of Environmental Disposal Service, both for extremely hazardous waste and hazardous waste and this was confirmed by permits issued to us by the Department of Health Services, Berkeley, CA, for the 1978-1979 time period. Additionally, IT's Vine Hill site was used for hazardous waste. All of our hazardous waste was hauled by Industrial Environmental;/IT transportation and disposed at the sites mentioned during 1978-1979.

Employee Interviews:

We interviewed three employees, still with Litton, who worked with chemicals in 1978-1979.

Lead Person, Chemical Cleaning - Remembers that the waste from this period went to "Kettleman".

Supervisor, Plating - Remembers getting empty drums from Waymire which were plain steel drums. The name "Waymire" is familiar.

He remembers sending the waste "somewhere down South - not San Jose - further than that" which coincides with Kettleman. He does not remember sending waste to San Francisco.

Lead Person, Plating - Remembers wastes all went into the desert, which coincides with shipments to Kettleman.

We could not interview Frank Payne, the former supervisor of chemical operations as he is deceased and had left Litton in June 1989.

It appears that we did purchase some drums from Waymire, and used these to collect our hazardous waste. We did not send any (emptied or contaminated) drums to Waymire for reconditioning. All of our liquid hazardous materials were purchased from other companies in small containers, roughly gallon sized, made of glass or plastic, or in the case of three liquid hazardous materials, IPA, acetone and 111TCA were delivered in bulk to our own storage tanks. Cutting and machining oils were purchased from other companies in 55 gallon drums. These drums were reused by us and then returned to IT Corporation for recycling/reuse.

This information was prepared by Phil Marquis, Manager, Plant Engineering.